

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A folding picnic table comprising:

a table top having a top surface and a bottom surface extending between a first end and a second end, the table top being divided into a first planar portion and a second planar portion, the table top configured to be selectively foldable, wherein the first planar portion and the second planar portion have a storage area formed in the bottom surface thereof;

a table top supporting assembly comprising:

a first cross bar having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the first planar portion and the second end being connected to the second planar portion, wherein the first cross bar has a pivot connection disposed along the length thereof for allowing the first cross bar to fold;

a first leg member having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the first cross bar;

a second leg member having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the first cross bar;

a seat having a top surface and a bottom surface extending between a first end and a second end, seat having a storage area formed in the bottom surface thereof; and

a seat supporting assembly comprising:

a first leg assembly pivotably connected to the seat; and

a second leg assembly pivotably connected to the seat.

2. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, wherein the pivot connection comprises:

a first hinge connector having a C-shaped body and having pin hole formed at an end thereof;

a second hinge connector having a C-shaped body and having a pin hole formed at an end thereof; and

a pin disposed through the pin holes on the first and the second hinge connectors.

3. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, further comprising a second cross bar being connected to the second end of the first leg member and the second end of the second leg member, the second cross bar having a hinge assembly disposed along the length thereof for allowing the second cross bar to fold.

4. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 3, wherein the hinge assembly comprises:

a first hinge connector having a first end connected to the first planar portion and a second end including a pin hole, the first hinge connector including a cam portion on the second end;

a second hinge connector having a first end connected to the second planar portion and a second end including a pin hole, the second hinge connector including a locking slot;

a hinge pin disposed in the pin hole of the first and second hinge connectors, the longitudinal axis of the hinge pin forming a hinge axis, wherein the table top is configured to fold about the hinge axis;

a locking pin adapted to be disposed in the locking slot of the second hinge connector, the locking pin being selectively moveable within the locking slot between a locked position wherein the locking pin is positioned so that the cam portion of the first hinge connector abuts the locking pin so as to substantially prevent the first hinge connector from rotatable movement about the hinge axis, and an unlocked position wherein the first hinge connector is able to freely rotate about the hinge axis.

5. The folding picnic table recited in claim 4, further comprising a lock actuating mechanism pivotally disposed about the hinge pin, the lock actuating mechanism comprising:

a handle portion; and

a displacement slot disposed at an offset angle with respect to the locking slot and configured to receive the locking pin so that when the handle is moved between a first position to a second position, the offset angle of the displacement slot acts to slide the locking pin in the locking slot between the locked and the unlocked position.

6. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 5, wherein the lock actuating mechanism further comprises:

a locking bar disposed in the second hinge connector; and

an anchoring portion configured to maintain the handle in the first and second positions, the anchoring portion comprising an elongated member having a first groove and a second groove, wherein in the first position, the first groove is configured to engage a portion of the locking bar and in the second position, the second groove is configured to engage a portion of the locking bar.

7. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, wherein the first planar portion and the second planar portion comprise facing connecting apertures, each connecting aperture configured to receive one of the first end and the second end of the cross bar.

8. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, wherein the first leg member and the second leg member each comprise:

an inner portion;

an outer portion, wherein the inner portion and the outer portion slidably engage; and

a locking mechanism for selectively positioning the inner portion and the outer portion at various lengths.

9. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 8, wherein the locking mechanism comprises:

a spring switch located on one of the inner portion and the outer portion;  
and  
a positioning hole located on the other of the inner portion and the outer portion, the positioning hole configured to receive the spring switch.

10. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 9, further comprising a depression lever for activating the spring switch.

11. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

a first pivotable support bar having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the first leg member and the second end being connected to the first planar portion; and

a second pivotable support bar having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the second leg member and the second end being connected to the second planar portion.

12. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, wherein the table top supporting assembly comprising:

a second cross bar having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the first planar portion and the second end being connected to the second planar portion, wherein the second cross bar has a pivot connection disposed along the length thereof for allowing the second cross bar to fold;

a third leg member having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the second cross bar; and

a fourth leg member having a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the second cross bar.

13. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

a first side rail having a first end and a second end, the first end of the first side rail being connected to the first cross bar and the second end of the first side rail being connected to the second cross bar; and

a second side rail having a first end and a second end, the first end of the second side rail being connected to the first cross bar and the second end of the second side rail being connected to the second cross bar.

14. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, further comprising a hinge assembly disposed between the first planar portion and the second planar portion.

15. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the first planar portion and the second planar portion comprise a handle formed thereon, the handles configured to align when the table top is folded to provide a carrying mechanism.

16. The folding picnic table as recited in claim 1, further comprising mortise and tenon members formed on the first and second planar portions.

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